

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

JUSE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SEC-01 EB-07 COME-00 /078 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1533

INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

UNCLAS BONN 14719

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, GW

SUBJECT: LOCKHEED AND THE FRG

REF: BONN 14520 (NOTAL)

1. OPPOSITION CHARGE THAT GOVERNMENT IS PLAYING POLITICAL GAMES WITH LOCKHEED ISSUE (REFTEL) BROUGHT A FURTHER REACTION IN THE FORM OF AN AUGUST 31 INTERVIEW WITH MINISTER FOR JUSTICE HANS-JOCHEN VOGEL BY THE DEUTSCHE PRESSE AGENCY (DPA). VOGEL EXPLAINED THAT THE DIFFICULTY IN GETTING HOLD OF THE MATERIAL THAT THE USG HOLDS HAS BEEN THE FRG WISH TO HAVE IT EVALUATED, NOT ONLY BY THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR AND THE COURTS, BUT ALSO TO HAVE A "POLITICAL EVALUATION", PROBABLY BY AN INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BUNDESTAG. TO DATE, HE SAID THE USG HAD NOT BEEN VERY SYMPATHETIC TO THE IDEA OF A POLITICAL EVALUATION AND HAD REFUSED TO MAKE THE MATERIALS AVAILABLE ON THAT BASIS. VOGEL SAID THAT MATERIALS GAINED BY EARLIER VISITS TO THE US OF MINISTRY OF DEFENSE INVESTIGATOR FRANZ JOSEF RATH HAD GIVEN CAUSE FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO ASK THE USG FOR FURTHER MATERIALS.

2. VOGEL LABELED AS "MISLEADING" THE OPPOSITION CHARGE
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THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD BROUGHT THE ISSUE UP AGAIN AT

THIS TIME IN ORDER TO CAST SUSPICION ON CSU PARTY
CHAIRMAN FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS TO THE OPPOSITION'S DETRI-
MENT IN THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION. THE MATERIAL IF
RECEIVED WOULD TAKE UNTIL WELL AFTER ELECTION DAY TO
BE EVALUATED. THE EVALUATION WOULD BE BY THE PROPER
OFFICIALS AND ACCORDING TO REGULATIONS. THERE WOULD BE
NO "FILTERING" OF THE INFORMATION. A COMPLETE CLARIFI-
CATION, VOGEL MAINTAINED, IS IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL
CONCERNED IF IT SHOULD SHOW THEIR INNOCENCE.
HILLENBRAND

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